SENATE BILL 2050 By Herron

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, Chapter 5, relative to disease management.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, Chapter 5, Part 1, is amended by inserting the following as a new, appropriately designated section thereto:

The bureau of TennCare shall adopt a state disease management program, which may include contracting with a vendor that specializes in the provision of disease management services. The disease management program shall be designed to improve care to and reduce overall expenditures for TennCare beneficiaries with chronic illnesses. The disease management program may include the development of evidence-based medical practice guidelines, support services to assist physicians in monitoring their patients, more closely managed patient care including management of the proper use of prescription drugs by patients, and the development of individual patient treatment plans that may include recommendations for improved medication compliance and improved lifestyle and behavioral compliance. The adoption of a disease management program is not an agency action and does not require rulemaking.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005, the public welfare requiring it.